

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
Edward Garvey  
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Beltrami County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 28, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P423/ES-00-444**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On November 4, 1980, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Beltrami County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services system.

On September 26, 1983, the Commission approved the actual costs Blackduck Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On December 12, 1983, the Commission approved the actual costs Northwestern Bell Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On March 16, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

On December 9, 1998, the Commission approved the actual costs Independent Emergency Services, Limited Liability Company incurred for placing a portion of tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service in the 911 Emergency Services system in Beltrami County.

**CURRENT FILING**

On March, 1983, Beltrami County contracted with Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company (the Company) for 911 Emergency Telephone Services.

On July 6, 1998, the Company placed tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service with two inter-exchange outswitch trunks from the Turtle River Tandem to the Kelliher, Puposky, Solway, and Blackduck Exchanges. The Company also installed three-911 interexchange circuits and four Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) circuits between the Bemidji and the Turtle River Exchanges in the 911 Emergency Telephone Services system in Beltrami County.

On March 1, 2000, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of outswitch trunks and router circuits for ANI service.

The Company is now requesting Commission approval of the actual ANI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Beltrami County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Beltrami County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

#### **Policy References:**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

**ORDER**

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Beltrami County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P423/ES-00-444.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
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658 CEDAR STREET  
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, \_\_\_\_\_

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public